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THE 11TH PLENARY SESSION OF THE ALL-UNION SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNICAL SOCIETY OF POWER ENGINEERS (VNITOE)

Engr G. O. Levit

The 11th plenary session of the administrative board of VNITOE was held in Zaporozh'ye, 2 - 5 April 1951. Representatives of 22 republican and oblast branches of the society participated in the session. The results of the society's work in 1950 and the plan for 1951 were discussed, and reports were heard on the construction of the South Ukraine and North Crimean canals and the Kakhovka hydroelectric power station.

In his report, A. S. Rumyantsev, deputy chairman of VNITOE, stated that the society now has 30 republican and oblast organizations. However, a number of regions in the east, where important power-engineering work is being done, still have no branches, although the need for them is obvious. In the past year, the membership of VNITOE has increased by more than one third; there are now about 13,000 members in the society. The number of primary organizations of VNITOE at electric power stations and enterprises of the electrical industry has more than doubled. There were 546 primary organizations in VNITOE at the beginning of 1951. The progressive increase in the activity of society members has been stimulated by the further development of socialist competition for the introduction of new techniques into production. In 1950, 5,525 members fulfilled socialist pledges, an increase of 30% over 1949. Considerable economies were effected by the practical application of 2,286 scientific and technical projects.

The several hundred scientific and technical meetings and conferences held in the past year included those on turbogenerators, hydrogenerators, electric drive of metal-cutting machines, electric drive in the textile industry, relays, communications centers, operation of hydroelectric stations, etc.

The Competition on Mechanization of Labor-Consuming Processes and the Competition imeni Academician B. Ye. Vedeneyev, conducted by VNITOE in 1951, were devoted entirely to the solution of a number of technical problems arising in connection with the more outstanding projects of socialist construction.

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The new method of raising the qualifications of society members through periodic conference courses deserves further development. In 1950, conference courses were conducted on the operation of municipal electrical distribution systems, on heat insulation, on industrial furnaces, on the development of high-speed methods for the repair of electrical equipment, and on small electric power stations.

Prof V. V. Bolotov, member of the administrative board of VNITOE, reported on the results of socialist competition of the branches. By jury decision, the Transferable Red Banner of VNITOE and first prize was awarded to the Gor'kiy Branch of VNITOE (Prof V. L. Lychkovskiy, chairman); second prize went to the Leningrad Branch of VNITOE (Prof S. V. Usov, chairman); third prizes were awarded to the Kiev Branch (Prof A. V. Orlovskiy, chairman), the Donets Branch (Engr K. M. Pobegaylo, chairman), and the Kharkov Branch (Engr M. S. Kiryunin, chairman); and fourth prize went to the Georgian Branch (Engr D. N. Chkheidze, chairman).

GES (hydroelectric power station) No 2 of the Kiev Regional Electric Power Administration was acknowledged the best primary organization of VNITOE, and its name was submitted to the All-Union Council of Scientific and Technical Societies as a candidate for a first prize.

Other reports were submitted at the conference by V. N. Simakov, chief engineer of the Ukrvodstroy (Trust for Ukrainian Water-Construction Projects); F. B. Lukhtanov, chief engineer of the Kakhovka GES construction project; Engr V. I. Filippov, chairman of the Ukrsel'elektro (Ukrainian Rural Electrification Trust); and A. F. Yakovlev, chief engineer of the Dnepr GES and chairman of the Zaporozh'ye Branch of the Society. Simakov reported on the plans for the South Ukraine and North Crimean canals, and particularly what these canals would do for farming in those regions. Lukhtanov reported on the plan for the Kakhovka GES and observed that the Kakhovka plant would be second only to the Dnepr GES in importance in the cascade of hydroelectric power stations on the Dnepr River from Kiev to the Black Sea. Filippov spoke on the electrification of regions adjoining the Caspian Sea. Yakovlev discussed the research work done by the operational personnel of the Dnepr GES and expressed a desire that this research program be made more extensive by grants from plants and planning organizations.

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